Serial No. <u>09/694,344</u>

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Docket No. 1232-4303US2

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 18-54 are currently pending.

By this Amendment, claims 22, 32 and 42 have been amended, and claims 48-54 have been canceled without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment.

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 18-47 would be pending.

II. Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification for failing to recite the patent number (e.g., U.S. Patent No. 6,163,800) in the priority claim of the first line of the specification. To address this matter, Applicant has amended the specification in the priority claims to recite the patent number. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 18-54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,994,926) in view of either Marshall (U.S. Patent No. 6,396,597). Claims 18-54 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon in view of Teramura et al. ("Experimental Facsimile Communication System on Packet Switched Data Network" IEEE Transactions on Communications, Vol. 29, Issue 12, Dec. 1981) and further in view of Marshall. Further, claims 18-54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Teramura in view of Marshall. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections of the claims for the reasons set forth below.

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1. Claims 18, 28 and 38

Claims 18, 28 and 38 are directed to an arrangement involving selecting either the first mode of transmitting one by one the information representing the notification results for the receivers by the plural-time communications or the second mode to transmit collectively the information representing the notification results for the plural receivers by the one-time communication. Both modes involve transmission of information representing notification results relating to data designated to <u>plural</u> receivers.

On the contrary, both Gordon and Teramura do not disclose or suggest at least any first mode as claimed. Marshall does not remedy these deficiencies in both the Gordon and Teramura teachings. Thus, the cited references, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the feature of selecting the first mode or the second mode as claimed. Thus, claims 18, 28 and 38 and their dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited reference.

2. Claims 22, 32 and 42

Claims 22, 32 and 42, as amended, are directed to an arrangement which reflects the following:

- (a) it is set whether the transmission of the information representing the notification result by the transmission means on the basis of the call generation from the data processing apparatus side is to be presented;
- (b) in the case where it is set that the transmission of the information representing the notification result on the basis of the call generation from the data processing apparatus is to be permitted, it is selected that the transmission is to be performed on the basis of the call generation from the data processing apparatus side; and

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(c) in the case where it is set that the transmission of the information representing the notification result on the basis of the call generation from the data processing apparatus is not to be permitted, it is selected that the transmission is to be performed on the basis of the call generation from the transmission side.

Thus, since it is possible to set that the transmission of the information representing the notification result on the basis of the call generation from the data processing apparatus is not to be permitted, the data processing side need not perform an unintended call.

However, both Gordon or Teramura do not disclose or suggest any operations corresponding to the above-noted point (a), as claimed. That is, in Gordon, it is unclear as to the transmission of information in response to which call based on what kind of standard, and Teramura is simply silent as to these features. Marshall does not remedy these deficiencies in both the Gordon and Teramura teachings.

Accordingly, the cited references, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the claimed features, i.e., noted above in points (a), (b) and (c) or the selection of the second mode as claimed. Thus, claims 22, 32 and 42 and their dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited references.

3. Claims 48, 53 and 54

Claims 48-54 have been canceled without prejudice rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

01-27-2004 03:50pm From-MORGAN&FINNEGAN

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AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4303US2. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. <u>13-4503</u>, Order No. <u>1232-4303US2</u>. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted, MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: January 27, 2004

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